

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims added in this Preliminary Amendment are fully supported by the original disclosure. Further, Applicants assert that the changes made to the specification address only formal matters and no new matter has been added by the new claims or the amendments to the specification. Further, Applicants respectfully submit that all the added claims are patentable and request an early indication of their allowance.

Respectfully Submitted,

McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff

Date: Sept 8, 2003

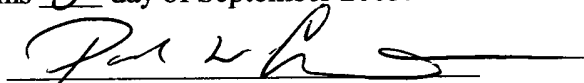
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The undersigned hereby certifies that the foregoing PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as Express Mail- Post Office to Addressee, Mailing Number ET655148047US in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 8 day of September 2003.



Paul W. Churilla